

**WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**  
Regular Meeting  
7525 Highland Road  
White Lake, MI 38383  
**SEPTEMBER 12, 2018 @ 7:00 p.m.**

Ms. Carlock called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll was called.

ROLL CALL: Merrie Carlock, Chairperson  
Deb Deren, Vice Chair  
Rhonda Grubb – Planning Commission Liaison  
Jean-Philippe Loew  
Andrea Voorheis – Township Board Liaison

Also Present: Jason Iacoangeli, AICP, Senior Planner

Visitors: 16

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Ms. Grubb moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Loew supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (5 yes votes)**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- a. August 8, 2018

Mr. Loew wanted to note that his name was spelled incorrectly in the August 8, 2018 minutes.

**Mr. Loew moved to approve the minutes of August 8, 2018 as amended. Ms. Deren supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (5 yes votes)**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No public comment.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Dog Waste Station Purchase (Vetter/Hidden Pines)

Mr. Iacoangeli would like the board to make a motion to purchase dog waste stations for Vetter and Hidden Pines. They are approximately \$80-\$100 each. The purchase of a waste station at Vetter would be for a second waste station, at the back of the property. It probably wouldn't be a bad idea to purchase a second one for Hawley Park for the back of the property. There is a suggestion for a total of three (3) to be purchased. There was a question asked if Hawley will remain a park, and yes it will, until at least about 2020.

**Ms. Grubb moved to recommend the purchase of three dog waste stations for Vetter, Hidden Pines and Hawley Park. Mr. Loew supported and the MOTION CARRIED with a voice vote. (5 yes votes)**

b. Swings for Vetter Park

Mr. Iacoangeli reported that there are a lot of people near Vetter Park who would like a swing set installed at Vetter Park. It would be a bank of three swings. Mr. Iacoangeli will measure a site at the park and bring back a measurement. Mr. Iacoangeli will gather some additional information for the swings for the next meeting. Carlock suggested a toddler swing, and an ADA swing should be purchased as well. There is quite a bit of safety surface required for the swing, and there has to be a walk to the swing set.

**CONTINUING BUSINESS:**

a. Fisk Farm/M-59 Pathway Plan Update

Mr. Iacoangeli reported that the bids came in almost double what they expected. The historical society has asked that the area be staked prior to being bid out again, so people can visualize where the pathway will go. That will probably happen in the next week or so. The plan calls for an 8' walkway. A resident suggested a 6' walkway to save money and use less historical property. Carlock suggested pulling in the staked area by 2 feet to get an idea of what it will look like. Greg Baroni asked for a phone call ahead of time to open the gates to let our engineer, J&A in. Loew sees this as an opportunity to bid the job closer to the road, and also ask for a pedestrian crossing. Baroni said the main concern is the driveway. When they had the Fisk Farm festival, the driveway is too narrow for in and out traffic. The M-59 Pathway permit is now ready through the MDOT. The pathway runs along the Redwood development (across from Meijer), across the ITC corridor and will stub off at the corner of M-59 and Bogie Lake Road. That pathway will be completed before the end of the construction season. The Township will be reimbursing Redwood for the materials used on the portion of the pathway that is not on Redwood property.

b. MNRTF Grant Update

All the preliminary grant scores came out on Tuesday. The Township did very well, 330 out of a possible 550 points. While relatively good, some points were missed, this was out of our control. The median income in White Lake Township is in the upper third, and no points were awarded in that category based on the affluence in the community. Some work is left to be done, and we may be able to gain about 40 to 60 points, which may be found by submitting supplemental information by Oct 2. The grants will be awarded in December. Mr. Iacoangeli is pleased with the score so far and he anticipates this to be pretty successful. The environmental report from the Huron River Watershed regarding the trees, plants, wetland species, and insects on the property should help with points as well.

The MNRTF Grant money is set aside from leases from oil and gas, and would be used to purchase the Brendel Lake Campground property. The property has been listed on the commercial market, and the Township would like to purchase that property. It has 500 feet of frontage on Brendel Lake. The property is heavily wooded and is optimal for its parklike elements. It may be the replacement for Hawley Park in conjunction with the new Township complex. There will pathways that will connect between the future Brendel Lake park, the Library and Township offices to use all of the Township services. It's a beautiful

piece of property, with a sandy beach. It could be a very nice Township park with opportunities for swimming, fishing, kayaking, and snorkeling. Grubb asked if we get insight on how other communities score. Mr. Iacoangeli stated that we don't but he said one of the previous scores was in the 200's and they received \$6 million. A resident asked about public access and it is not public for motorized boats, just canoes and kayaks. A resident asked if Mud Lake will remain natural, and it will. The Townships share will be 25% of the purchase price.

c. Walking Track Repair and Replacement Update

At the last meeting, A & R paving was awarded the project to dig out the walking paths, patch them and resurface them. The work began at Vetter Park today. Next week, weather permitting, the work should begin at Hawley Park. It was last resurfaced in 2013 and it's time for maintenance to the path. Carlock suggested a press release or Facebook post, and Mr. Iacoangeli will do that.

d. Fisk Farm Halloween Event

Greg Baroni reported that this was the 33rd annual Fisk Farm Festival. There were 1,135 paid guests on Saturday, the weather was gorgeous. There was lots of entertainment, kids games and crafters. There is a new carriage house, with a general store that sold with penny candy. The weather Sunday took them down to 520 paid guests, but it was considered to be a success overall. There was a reenactment group, settlement type folks. There was also a blacksmith, and other areas of interest from pioneer days. Carlock thanked them for hosting for 33 years and Baroni stated that they are looking forward to the 34<sup>th</sup>.

A contract was entered into with Allen Entertainment for the Fisk Farm Halloween Event. The pricing was less, because Allen Entertainment won't provide popcorn, the historical society will. Anyone who wants to volunteer to park cars is welcome, help is always needed. Mr. Iacoangeli has flyers for the event, and asked members to take them to be posted at local businesses.

Parking for the event begins at 6 p.m., the trunk or treat is at 6:30, the gates to the farm open at 7 and the movie starts around 7 p.m. Concession refreshments and a campfire will be available. On October 13<sup>th</sup> the North Oakland Storytellers will have Fright Night in the barn beginning at 7:00 p.m.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

a. Staff Report

Mr. Iacoangeli had nothing to report.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

a. Commissioner Comments

Ms. Grubb reported that the PC discussed and approved a special land use for a doggie daycare. The Capital Improvement Plan was approved. The PC also recommended rezoning and preliminary site plan approval for the Preserve at Hidden Lake with a few recommendations.

Ms. Deren had no report.

Mr. Loew stated that the PC meeting for the rezoning for Hidden Lake was interesting with a lot of input. It's important to get the millage to be able to save similar properties within the Township. They addressed connecting with the adjacent properties. Mr. Loew wanted to report that the renovations happening at Houghton Elementary school have not included sidewalks and that is a decision of the State of Michigan. The entire parking lot was redone and there are no sidewalks and it's a very busy crosswalk area. Mr.

Loew wonders what could be done the next time this happens. It's a schoolboard decision along with the State. For upcoming projects maybe now would be the time, as a resident, to voice your opinions. Baroni stated that there used to be major grants for that. There are initiatives by the school for safe pathways. Mr. Loew reported that he is still doing a lot of snorkeling near the Brendel Lake property.

Ms. Carlock wanted to say how nice Hawley Park looks. Mr. Iacoangeli will pass the compliment along to Garrett who maintains the grass.

Greg Baroni wanted to let the students from the government class know that the Fisk Farm Halloween Event would be an awesome opportunity to get some community service hours. Baroni stated that we are always looking for students from Lakeland to get involved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

**The next meeting is Wednesday, October 10, 2018.**